

ARTICLES TO BE ENQUIRED OF WITHIN THE DIO-

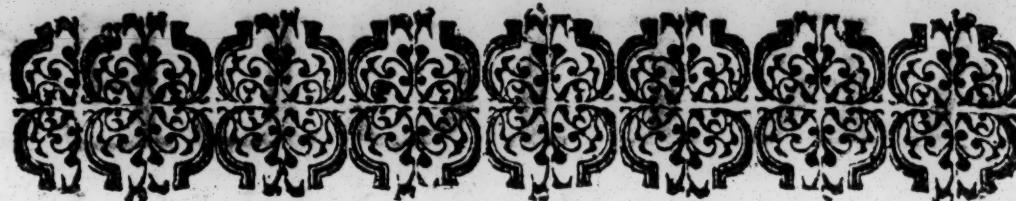
cesse of LINCOLNE in the generall

and trienniall Visitation of the right reverend Father in God Iohn by Gods prudence, Bishop of Lincoln, Lord Keeper of the great Seale of ENGLAND.

26



Imprinted at LONDON.
1625.



The Aduertisement.

THe Minister and Churchwardens are to call vnto them the Neighbours of the Parish, and out of them to make choice of two of the discreetest parishioners to be Side-men, and they all together are to reade over these Articles diuers times.

Then, after they haue duely considered of them, they are to write an answer or presentment vnto euery Article particularly, and truely, according to their Consciences.

Lastly, they are all of them to bring their presentments to the Visitation, and there the Churchwardens and Side-men vpon their Oathes are to deliuere them vp vnder their hands to the Lord Bishops Visitors. The Minister is to put them in minde of such things as he knoweth needfull to be presented, and in case they neglect, to give notice to the Visitors.



The Oath ministred to the Church- wardens and Sworne-men.

YOU shall duely enquire and true presentment make of all offences or defaults mentioned in the Articles giuen you in charge, or otherwise agaist the Ecclesiasticall Lawes, together with the names of the feuerall Offenders therein.

So helpe you God.



Articles to be enquired of in the Diocese of LINCOLNE.



1. Whether is your Church, or Chap- Church.
pell, and the Chancell sufficiently in Chancell.
repaire of the wals, roose, seats, pane- Church-yard.
ment, and windowes; also the Par-
sonage or Vicarage house? And
whether is the Church-yard decently
fenced with Hailes, Pales, or Wals,
and by whose default are any of these in decay, either
Minister, lay-person, Appropriator, Farmer, or Parishi-
oner? Set downe the names of those in whose time, or
by whose meanes the said decaies were made, or suffe-
red to be made.

2. Who is the Patron of your Parsonage or Vicarage? Patron.
as you know or haue credibly heard: what glebe Terrier.
Land is there belonging to the Parsonage or Vicarage? Glebe.
Enquire of your Minister, and giue vp a Ter-
rier of the same to the Lord Bishops visitors, or some
by them appointed, before the Wednesday after Ea-
ster next.

Also you shall present the names of all such men, ei-
ther Ministers or lay persons, who haue changed, usur-
ped, or inclosed any of the said glebe, or taken away any
part of the building belonging to the Church, Parso-
nage, or Vicarage, or doe detaine from the Parson, or
Vicar, any tithes, glebe land, duties, or profits, which
you know or haue heard haue belonged within the me-
morie of man unto the Parsonage or Vicarage.

Articles.

Free Schoole
Hospitall
Church-re-
paires, &c.

3. Whether is there in your Parish any free Schoole, or any monies, rents, stocks, lands, or houses giuen to the maintenance of a Schoole, or of an Hospitall, or of the Poore, or of the Church, or the repaires thereof, or of a Preacher, or an Organist, or of any other thing for the maintenance or ornament of the service of God: whether are the said monies or lands, &c. so imploed as they were bequeathed, or whether are they detained or usurped to any other vse, and by whom? you shall giue certificate hereof, if there be cause, vpon the day aboue said.

Prophaners.

4. Whether haue your Church or Church-yard bene prophaned or abused with plaies, quarrels, fighting, scoulding, or ill words, or with feasts, Pedlars buying and selling, Courts, or any such like, and by whom? And whether haue any Trees bene cut downe in the Church-yard, and by whom?

Booke.

Church parts. 5. Whether haue you in your Church or Chappell a large Bible, Bookes of Common Prayer; sufficient bookes of Homilies, Erasmus his Paraphrasis, Bishop Lewels workes, the booke of God and the King, a conuenient Pulpit, and a Pulpit-cloth, a decent seat for the Minister and Clarke, a Chest for the Registry to be kept in with threé Keyes, whereof the Minister to haue one. Also a poore mans Box after the same manner, and whether is the Register-booke so written, kept, perused, and certified as it ought?

Easter weeke.

6. Whether haue you a decent Font with a cover for Baptisme; and a decent Communion Table with two Couers, one of Silke, or some fine stoffe, another of Linnen; a faire Surplice, a communion siluer Cup, and a Scoope for the wine; sufficient Bells and Bell-ropes fit for ringing: And whether haue you had any necessaries or ornaments of your Church now fallen into decay, as Bells, Organes, or Chime, or a Clocke, or Lofts to sit in, maintenance for singing, or any such like: and by whom are any of these with-held, or taken away, or who haue defaced, broken downe, or taken away any decent ornaments in your Church?

7. Wher-

Articles.

7. Whether are the names of sozaine Preachers, and Preachers and their licenses registered : Haue you the Booke of Canons of 1603. And doth your Minister reade them publickly once every yéere.

8. Whether doth your Minister every Sunday and holiday, and on their Eues, sing or say distinctly in due time and place the Prayers and Service according to the booke of Common Prayer : Also on Wednesdaies and Fridaies, without addition, or omitting any thing. And whether doth he appoint holydaies, fastingdayes, and the Ember weekes : And whether doth he warne and keepe the perambulations :

9. Whether doth the Minister every Sunday and holyday Catechize the youth, and unmaried persons in the parish : Whether doth he vse any Catechisme other then that in the booke of Common prayer : if he doe, you shall before Wednesday in Easter weeke next, warne your Minister to bring his said Catechisme to the Lord Bishops visitors, or some appointed by them, that it may be perused : Also whether doth he admit any persons to the Communion, or to be Godfathers or Godmothers, or to be married , that cannot say the Catechisme, and who they were :

10. Whether haue you any Lecture or extraordinary Lecturers. Preaching by one or more Preachers : Whether haue those Preachers or Preacher lawfull authority thereto from the Lord Bishop : What stipend they haue , and from whom : Whether doth the said Lecturer reade Prayers twice a yéere at the least , and conforme himselfe to the Ordres of the Church of England, according to the Canon :

11. Whether doe any Preachers that you know, or haue heard of, Preach one against another, and whether doth your Minister obserue the late Ordres or Articles appointed by his Maiestie for the edifying of the people, and auoiding of dangerous questions :

12. Whether doth your Minister or any other person in your Parish keepe any private meetings for prayers

Articles.

or teaching (other then with their owne Families) or
any priuate Fastes or Exercises, or exercising to cast out
Diuels without lawfull authority.,

13. Whether doth your Minister vse the rites and
ceremonies, and other orders appointed by the Lawes
and Canons of the Church and Realme in the admini-
string of the Sacraments and Service, as the Sur-
plice, the Crosse in Baptisme, the Ring in mariage, and
the rest?

14. Whether hath your Minister or any other in
your Parish in their Sermons oppugned or spoken a-
gainst the Doctrine, Orders, or Ceremonies of the
Church of England, as against the Kings supremacy,
the government of the Church, the booke of Canons,
the Communion booke, kneeling at Communion, Crosse
in Baptisme, Surplice, Ring in marriage, the bowing
at the name of Jesus, or any other of the Rites autho-
rised? And whether are there any such that refuse or
speake against the said Rites, received by the Minister to
the Communion?

15. Whether doth the Minister warne and celebrate
so many Communions that every Parishioner may re-
ceive thrice at least in the yeare?

16. Whether doe you know or haue heard of any
popish Priests, Seminaries, or Jesuites intartained in
your Parish, or any that suffer Mass, or any popish
service in their houses, or that doe seduce the people
from the Religion established, or doe speake euill of
the same?

17. How many Benefices hath your Minister, and
how farre distant doth he serue your cure himselfe, and
there diligently preach, or hath a sufficient Preacher for
his Curate? what wages doth he allow to his Curate?
Let the Minister himselfe also come with his Curate
and signifie to the Lord Bishops Visitors what stipend
he doth allow him.

18. Whether doe you know or haue heard of any Si-
mony, which your Minister hath vsed, directly or indi-
rectly,

Articles.

rely, or any money which he gaue to his Patron or any other for his liuing?

19. If your Minister be not a Preacher, whether doth he procure monthly Sermons to be made by some able licensed Preacher: and whether doth he, when there is no Sermon, reade the Homilies?

20. Whether doe you know, or haue heard of any maried in your Church at the times prohibited, or not being thrice asked in the Church, or without a lawfull Licence, or in an unlawfull place, or houre, that is, not betweene eight and twelue of the clocke in the forenone, or where the parties being vnder one and twenty yeeres of age, had not the consent of their parents?

21. Whether haue any beens maried within the de-
grés forbidden, or in any Church which was not the Parish Church of one of the parties who were maried?

22. What persons doe you know that come not diligently to Church on Sundaisies and holy-daisies, or refuse or neglect to send their children to be catechised?

23. Whether doth your Minister visit the sick, or refuse to goe and comfort them, or to minister the Communion to them, or to baptise a childe that is in danger?

24. If you haue any Chappells of ease in your Parish, whether doe the inhabitants resort once a yeere at the least to the Parish church to receive the communion?

25. Whether doth your Minister weare decent and graue apparell: whether doth he resort to Tauernes, or Alehouses, or any unlawfull games? or doth he vse any seruile labour, as carting, plowing, &c.

26. Whether is your Minister peaceable and a peace-maker, and whether doth he abet any suits or contentions amongst his neighbours, or trouble, sue, or present them for vaine and triuiall causes?

27. Whether doth the Minister warne and celebrate the daies of the Kings beginning of his reigne, and the first of August, and the first of Nouember, for his Majesties happy deliurance? And whom do you know in your Parish.

Articles.

Parish that refuse to celebrate them: and whether is your Minister absent aboue fourescore dayes in the yeere from his charge?

Ecclesiastical Courts.

28. Whether doe you know that any ecclesiastical Judge, or any of the Registers, or Apparators, or any other Officer belonging to the Ecclesiastical Courts, haue taken rewards or gifts for perverting justice, or denied Justice to any man who lawfully required the same?

29. Whether doe you know or haue heard that any of the said Judges, or Registers, or any belonging to the said Courts doe fauour any Papists or popish Recusants, or non-conformitants, or Brownists, Anabaptists, or any other Sectaries, or doe forbear to enquire, cite, denounce, and censure them?

30. Whether haue the said Ecclesiastical Judges appointed and constituted certaine and determined Surrogates and substitutes, being Batchelors of Divinitie, Batchelors of the Law, or at the least Masters of Arts, and graue licensed Preachers; or doe they appoint weake and insufficient men in their owne absences?

31. Whether hath your Archdeacon, or any for him, viewed your Church, Chappell, and other buildings mentioned in theire first Articles?

32. Whether hath the Chancellour, Commissaries, or any vsing Ecclesiastical Jurisdiction vpon the presentement or information given vnto him of any foule offences or scandals in your Parish, not punished the persons detected, so that the Congregation hath not beeene satisfied both of Justice, and the amendment of the partie, and who where the parties committing the said offences, as Incest, Adulterie, Fornication, Drunkennesse, Blasphemy, Heresie, clandestine mariage, profaning of the Church, or such like?

33. Whether hath the said Chancelloz, Commissaries, or any other Ecclesiastical Judge committed the penance of any such delinquents to pay a summe of mo-

nay,

Articles.

ney, and how much of the said money haue you knowne to be sent, distributed, or employed to the poore, or to any other charitable bses in your Parish?

34. Whether are your Ecclesiasticall courts kept at conuenient times and places, and whether is any man cited out of his owne Jurisdiction?

35. Whether doe the Ecclesiasticall Judges suffer any persons detected for crimes to sue and molest the Churchwardens (who detected them) for the same.

36. Whether doe you know or haue heard that any of the said Judges, in case, when the deceased dies without a will, haue assigned or taken part of the goods to charitable bses, and how haue you knowne them so imployed?

37. Whether in such case of any dying without a will, doth the Ecclesiasticall Judge send out intimation to summon the creditors, kindred, wife and children to come take administration, and committed the same, not to needy persons, but to able men, and such as entred sufficient bond to preserve the estate, and answer all that is due, and save the Lord Bishop harmelesse?

38. Whether doth the said Judge Ecclesiasticall, when a Benefice is vacant, commit sequestration to able men that doe answer and account truely for the maine profits? And whether are the Parishes, during the vacancy well served with able Ministers?

39. Whether doe you know, or haue credibly heard, that the said Judges Ecclesiasticall, Registers, or Apparators doe take any extraordinary or more fees for probate of wils, Administrations, accounts, assignations of portions, or citations, then are allowed by the Statutes of the Land, or any fees greater then heretofore haue bene accustomed in other busynesses belonging to their courts?

40. Whether doe you know, or haue heard, that any Register of the said Courts haue sped any act or dismissed any person detected without the knowledge

Articles.

and actuall consent of the Judge?

41. Whether doe the Registers in the said Courts professe the Religion of the Church of England? Whether doe they orderly receive the holy communion; and whether are they of honest, sober, and godly conuersation?

42. Whether doe the said Registers keepe sufficient Scribes and seruants, who are publique Notaries, to make Acts, and keepe the Courts? whether doe they allow them sufficient meanes to live, or suffer them to take, or exact monies of suitors for expedition?

43. Whether is there in euery place where Ecclesiasticall Courts are kept, and also in the Registry of euery such Office or Court, a Table of Fees set vp, that every one may reade the same containing all the Fees that every Officer of the Court ought to take according to the Canon made at the Convocation vnder Archbishop Whirgquist, Anno Dom. 1599.

44. Whether are there more Apparatores belonging to the Courts then heretofore were accustomed? Whether doe any of the Apparatores buy or take to farme their Offices or the execution of the same?

45. Whether doth any person in your knowledge, or as you haue heard, take vpon him to execute both the places of Judge and Registry, directly or indirectly?

46. Whether are there any in your Parish who occupie or enjoy any goods of any man deceased, not having proued his Will, or taken Administration of his goods where there was no Will made?

47. Whether haue you any Scholemaster or Usher in your Parish who is not licensed by the Ordinary, and is not of sound Religion and honest conuersation?

48. Whether doth the Scholemaster catechise his Schollers in the grounds of Religion; cause them discretely to behauue themselves in the Church on Sun-daisies and Holidaies, and take an account of their lea-

ning

Schoolema-
ster.

Articles.

ning both in godlinesse and in other Studies?

49. Whether is your Parish Clarke aboue twenty
yeres of age, and sufficient for his place, able distinctly Parish Clarke
to reade the first Lesson and to sing, and diligent in his
office?

50. Whether the Clarke or any person not authori-
sed meddle aboue his place, as to reade Prayers, bury
the dead, Church women, and such like?

51. Whether doth the Clarke or Sexton keepe cleane
the Church, ring the Bells, attend the buriall of the
dead, and other things belonging to their places?

52. Whether doe all the Parishioners pay their ac-
customable wages and duties to the Clark and Sexton,
and what be their names that refuse?

53. Whether are there any in your Parish who im-
pugne, speake, print, publish or keepe any books against
the Kings supremacy, the Articles of Religion of 1562.
or against the present government of the Church?

54. Whether doe any on Sundaises or Holidaises, Negligence in
especially in the time of diuine Seruice or Sermon, diuine Ser-
mispend the time in Alehouses, vnlawfull games, idle-
nesse or labour; or who doe not reverently behauue them-
selves in the Church: or vse talking, walking, or any
other uncomely behaviour then or there?

55. Whether haue any aboue seuentene yeres of
age not received thrice in the yere the Communion, or
doe refuse (being vnnmarried people) to be catechised?

56. Whether haue any bene married their former Marriage
husbands or wiues being alive, although they were di-
vorced from them? or doe any man or woman liue from
their husbands or wiues?

57. Whether hath any man abused your Minister by
blowes or vngreuerent speeches, or beaten, or railed on
any man in the Church or Churchyard?

58. Whether are there in your Parish any Popish,
Anabaptistical, Brownist, or other Recusant, or non

Articles.

communicant, or wholabour to pervert others to their
opinions?

59. Whether doe any foeriner of other Parishes
resort to your Church to Service or Communion, or
doe any of your Parish accustomed to goe to other
Churches, and neglect their owne?

Enormities.

60. Whether are there in your Parish any incestuous Adulterers, Fornicators, Bawds, conuictors or
intertainers of incontinent persons, or who are famed
or suspected for the same?

61. Whether are there in your Parish any blasphemers, common swearers, or such as bse to speake bawdy, immodest and filthy speeches, malicious slanderers,
scolds, drunkards, or any defamed for the same, or any
that make signe, or publish libels, or defamations agaist any?

Sessments.

62. Whether doe any refuse their sessments to the
repaires and ordinary charges of the Church, although
they dwell without the Parish, having goods or lands
within it.

63. Whether haue any in your Parish abused the
Churchwardens or Sidemen for doing their duties?

Witches.

64. Whether doe you know any men or women sus-
pected for Coniurers, Witches, Sorcerers, or that bse
any unlawfull or enchanting prayers, or charmes in
writing or otherwise, to hurt or heale man or beast; and
what are their names, and whs resort unto them for
helpe or counsell?

Physitians.
Surgeons.

65. Whether are there in your Parish any that pra-
cise Phisicke or Chirurgerie without licence, and who
are they? You shall also warne all that haue licenses
from the Lord Bishop, or his predecessors, or any of his
officers to come shew them to his visitors to haue their
Licenses seene and allowed.

Excommuni-
cates.

66. Whether doe any in your Parish converse with
wilfull excommunicate persons: what excommunicate
persons haue been buried in the Church or Churchyard:

Articles.

67. Whether are there in your Parish any notorious Usurers?

68. Whether doe you know or haue heard of any that obserue not the abstinence or fasts (by the lawes and canons commanded, and warned in the Church) of the time of Lent, Ember weekes, Fridaies and Saturdaies Fasting daies
and holy day eves.

69. Whether are your Churchwardens according to order and lawfully chosen? whether are the old Churchwardens Churchwadens accounted for what they received, to the Minister and Parish: And whether doe they and the Sidemen meeet to conserre of these present or any former Articles giuen them in charge, to make true presentments, or haue wilfully omitted to present knowne or fained offendours?

70. Whether doe the Churchwardens take and gather twelue pence for every Sunday of Recusants, excommunicate persons, and others who come not to Church, and distribute it to the poore?

71. You shall also enquire whether heretofore you haue had a Parson or Vicar indowed, and whether there haue biene any such in your memory, or as you haue heard from your neighbours or ancestors. And that now your Church is serued by a Curate, squatter or stipendary, and who doth receive the fruits, and pay the Curate his wages?

72. You shall also enquire of all other faults, not in these Articles expressed, punishable by the Ecclesiastical lawes, and present them.

These



These things are to be exhibited by the Church-
wardens and Sidemen at or before the Wednesday
in Easter weeke.

A Teritorie of glebe Land belonging to the Parso-
nage or Vicarage : And who is Patron of the
Living :

Also what Lands, Kents, Stockes, or monies haue
þene giuen for the maintenance of the Church, or Poore,
or Schoole, or other pious þse.

The Catechisme, if any be taught by the Minister,
besides that in the Booke of Common Prayer.

F f N f S.

